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# KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST

CALIFORNIA-OREGON

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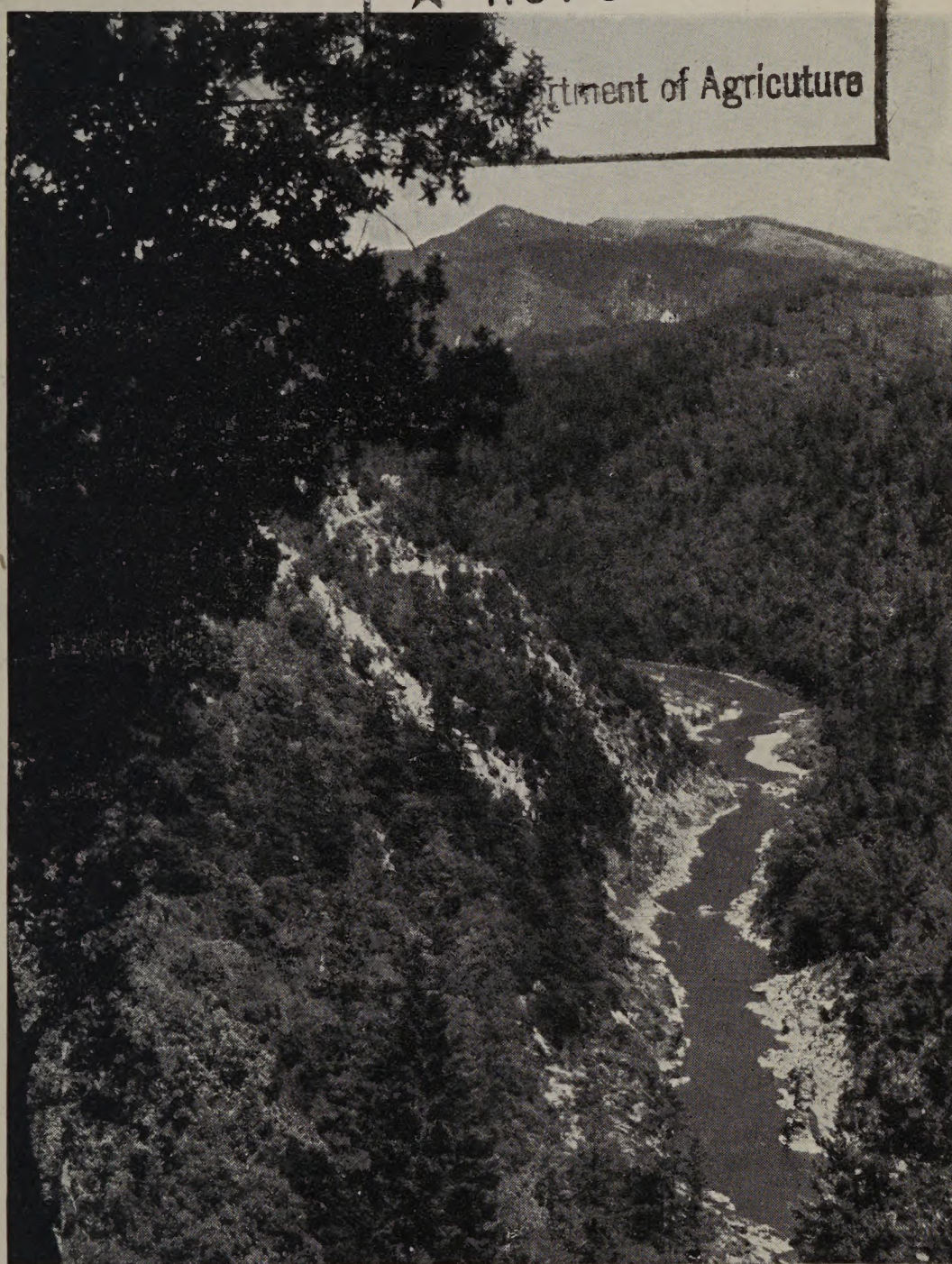


Photo by Raymond Moulin.

*Klamath River, Klamath National Forest*

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

CALIFORNIA REGION

Issued 1936



## KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST

### CALIFORNIA-OREGON

The Klamath National Forest, which takes its name from the Klamath River, the second largest stream in California, embraces 1,500,831 acres of Government land in Siskiyou, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties in California, together with a small area in Jackson County, Oregon. The main division of the forest includes portions of the Klamath, Siskiyou, Salmon, Marble, and Scott Ranges, all part of the Coast Range system. On the east and south the Klamath Forest joins the Shasta and Trinity National Forests of California; on the north and northwest it is bounded by the Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests of Oregon.

Probably nowhere else in California are there such large areas of absolute wilderness as in the Klamath Forest, and much of these areas will remain wilderness for many years to come despite contemplated road and trail development. The mountain ranges of this region are mainly narrow, tortuous ridges five to seven thousand feet in elevation, separated by deep canyons with steep slopes. In the canyons flow crystal streams of splashing white water forming the principal rivers of the forest—the Klamath, which drains toward the Pacific Ocean from Upper Klamath Lake in Oregon, and the Scott and Salmon Rivers—all turbulent streams flowing through mountain valleys and rugged canyons.

### HISTORY

The word Klamath, which is the name of an Indian tribe that lived in southeastern Oregon near the headwaters of the Klamath River, is believed to have originated from the Lutuami term *maklaks*, meaning “people” or literally “the encamped.”

The Klamath River region was originally the home of the Karok Indians of the Quoratean family. Below them on the river were the Yuroks; above them the Shastan tribes. Many descendants of these and other northern California tribes still live in this region. A few of the native Indian customs have also survived. They still have their fall festivals with the “Deerskin”, “Brush”, and “Coyote” dances, and stick and drum games. A particularly interesting ceremonial is that held at the Pick-aw-ish Campground below Happy





F-178327

*The "White Deerskin" dance of the Karok Indians*

Camp, during the dark of the moon just preceding the new moon in August.

The white man's history of the Klamath region began when a trapper, Peter Skene Ogden, camped south of the Klamath River with a party of 24 men in February 1827. In 1845 the trapping expedition led by Maj. Pierson B. Reading crossed the mountains from the Sacramento Valley and discovered the South Fork of the Klamath River. In 1849 Major Reading again returned to the region and found gold. Settlers and miners from Oregon and California moved in, and for a time the Klamath River region had a large population. In April, 1851, Klamath County was formed. With the decline of placer mining the people moved away, the county became heavily in debt, and in 1874 it passed out of existence as a political unit and was divided between Humboldt and Siskiyou Counties.

Populous mining camps were founded in the "fifties" along the Klamath, Salmon, and Scott Rivers. Orleans, county seat of the former Klamath County; Happy Camp, supplied by pack trains operated by Chinese from Crescent City on the coast; Hamburg; Scott Bar, with its famous Quartz Hill; and Sawyers Bar are but ghosts of their former glory; and such camps as Frenchtown, Deadwood, and Petersburg exist in memory only. Although with the exhaustion of the larger and more easily worked placer mines the population dwindled, the remaining

**Get the "fire bug"! The Forest Service will pay \$100 to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons on the charge of willfully and maliciously setting on fire any timber, underbrush, or grass on national-forest lands.**



inhabitants settled the limited tracts of agricultural land and combined small farming operations with mining during the winter months, prospecting, and such additional work as was available. The result is that for such a remote and inaccessible region there is a comparatively large population scattered throughout the forest.

## ACCESSIBILITY

There are no railroads within the Klamath National Forest. The nearest points of connection are Yreka and Hornbrook, on the Southern Pacific Railroad a few miles east of the forest boundary, and Eureka, on the Northwestern Pacific Railroad, 88 miles by road from Weitchpec, near the western boundary.

During the summer season daily stages are available from Yreka to Etna via Fort Jones, Hornbrook to Happy Camp via Scott Bar, Gazelle to Etna via Callahan, Etna to Orleans via the Salmon River Canyon through Sawyers Bar and Forks of Salmon.

Triweekly stages operate from Yreka to Happy Camp, and from Eureka via Orleans to Happy Camp. All these stage lines operate during the winter, but some of the schedules depend upon weather and road conditions.

The central portion of the Klamath Forest can be reached by three main roads, the Klamath River Highway, the Salmon River Road, and the Scott River Road. These are for the most part mountain roads, comparatively narrow, but provided with turnouts, and with some heavy grades. They are safe for experienced drivers who have cars with brakes in good condition and who drive at reasonable speed.

*Klamath River Highway.*—Connects the Pacific Highway with the Redwood Highway. It leaves the Pacific Highway at the junction of the Shasta and Klamath Rivers and traverses the scenic Klamath River Canyon to Martins Ferry Bridge. The road is a State highway for this distance and is yearly being improved, but is rough and narrow in places and requires careful driving.

A secondary State highway joins the Klamath River Highway 17 miles below Orleans at Weitchpec, and connects with the Weaverville-Eureka State Highway via Hoopa Indian Reservation. A county road runs from

**Be a real sportsman. There is more honor in giving the game a square deal than in getting the limit.**





F-229725

*The Klamath River Highway between the Pacific Highway and Walker. The Forest Service, in cooperation with the State and counties, has spent over two million dollars in opening up a highway down the Klamath.*

Martins Ferry over the Bald Hills to Orick on the coast, where it connects with the Redwood Highway.

From Happy Camp there is a good Forest Service road to the famous Oregon Caves via Indian Creek and the Illinois River, connecting with the Pacific Highway south of Grants Pass, Oregon.

*Salmon River Road.*—From Etna in Scott Valley to Somes Bar on Klamath River Highway. The road crosses the summit of Salmon Mountain, from which there is an excellent view of Scott Valley and the Salmon River country, and continues down the North Fork of Salmon River via Finley Camp and Sawyers Bar to the Forks of Salmon, and from there down the rugged Salmon River Canyon to Somes Bar on the Klamath River Highway. From Sawyers Bar a branch Forest Service road runs to Cecilville and the East Fork of Salmon River. Etna, the starting point of the Salmon River Road, may be reached from the Pacific Highway over a good county road from Gazelle via Callahan, or over State highway from Yreka via Fort Jones.

*Scott River Road.*—From Fort Jones in Scott Valley down the timbered, scenic canyon of Scott River, past Scott Bar, ghost town of the mining days, to the Klamath River Highway, 2 miles from Hamburg.

Numerous side roads in the forest are available to tourists who desire to get away from the main routes of travel, but inquiry should be made relative to their condition before attempting any trips.



## CLIMATE

Climatic conditions in the Klamath National Forest are usually excellent from June to October. Along the rivers and in the mountain canyons the days are often hot, but the nights are always cool. On the higher summits the climate is delightful, with bright, sunshiny days and cool nights. Occasional summer thunder-showers occur over most of the forest, but are usually of short duration. The normal rainfall ranges from 80 inches at Orleans to 16 inches at Yreka

## RESOURCES

### TIMBER

The Klamath National Forest contains 12½ billion feet of Government timber. Fully 30 per cent of this stand is sugar pine and ponderosa pine and the remainder mostly Douglas fir in mixture with miscellaneous



F-200086

*The virgin pine and fir stands of the Klamath National Forest constitute a reserve supply of 12½ billion feet, which will some day be cut to supply California's growing timber needs*



species. Privately owned timber intermingled with the Government stumpage is estimated at about 3 billion feet.

About a dozen small sawmills supply the local demand for timber in the more remote areas. There is only one large mill at present in the Klamath Forest which cuts Government and privately owned stumpage. The rough topography of the country makes logging difficult and railroad construction expensive, and the high percentage of Douglas fir in the forest precludes the development of logging operations on a large scale in the near future. The timber stand of the Klamath therefore constitutes a reserve supply which will be cut when economic conditions warrant. The policy of the Forest Service will be to aid in establishing a permanent sawmill industry in the region by selling Government stumpage when this time arrives.

It is estimated by foresters that the annual cut of timber on the Klamath National Forest, on a sustained-yield basis, could be safely placed at 125 million feet board measure. This would mean the ultimate continuous operation of one or two large sawmills, or several small mills and a pulp and paper plant. It is because of the potential value of the present stand of timber and the possibility of a future permanent manufacturing industry that the Forest Service spends large sums in the development and protection of this valuable timber resource.

National-forest timber sales are handled under approved forestry methods, with the idea of keeping the land in continuous timber production. Mature, decadent, diseased, and deformed trees are removed and a reserve stand of trees is left to provide the basis for a future harvest and to insure seed trees that will restock the ground with young growth. All trees to be cut are marked by an experienced Forest Service officer and logging methods are controlled in order to prevent damage to the young growth on the area. Slash and debris resulting from the logging operations are piled and burned in winter as a precaution against destructive forest fires.

## GRAZING

It is the policy of the Forest Service to manage forage-producing lands in such manner that they will be continuously productive, and to distribute the grazing privileges equitably among the users of dependent agricultural lands; in short, to perpetuate the local livestock





F-168152

*The Klamath Forest annually furnishes forage sufficient to feed more than 6,000 head of cattle*

industry through proper care and improvement of grazing lands. Local settlers and stockmen are given the preference in the use of the range. The number of animals, the season of grazing, the class of stock, the area to be grazed, and detailed rules for herding, salting, bedding, etc., are determined by the Forest Service with the purpose of attaining the best possible utilization of the forage resources. The judicious management of the forest range must continue in harmony with the desired protection and development of all other resources of the forest. Forage and grazing allotments are also regulated so that there may be sufficient feed for deer within the State game refuge in the forest.

Approximately 35 percent of the Klamath National Forest, or about 567,000 acres, has been classified as valuable for the grazing of domestic stock, and there is sufficient forage produced on such land to provide feed for 6,000 cattle and 5,000 sheep during the summer season. The mountain pastures used for grazing are a very necessary adjunct to the hay-producing agricultural lands of Scott and Shasta Valleys, and to the small ranches inside the forest.

## MINING

A belt of highly mineralized slates, schists, porphyries, and serpentine extends across the Klamath National Forest from the Salmon River country north to the Oregon line. Since the discovery of gold in this region, approximately \$150,000,000 has been taken from this mineral belt. The three principal rivers and some of



their tributaries have long been noted as big placer gold producers, 60 percent of the gold production coming from gravel mines. Even today there are several large hydraulic mines and numerous small placers in operation during the winter months. A few quartz gold mines are in production and considerable development work is going on, with indications of increased future activity. Pocket mining is carried on by many prospectors, with varying success. There are large proven deposits of copper in the vicinity of Happy Camp.

The development of stable and bona fide mining operations is encouraged by the Forest Service. Mineral deposits within national forests are open to development exactly as on unreserved public land. A prospector can go anywhere he chooses and stake a claim wherever he finds any evidence of valuable minerals. The only restriction is that mining claims must be bona fide and not taken up for the purpose of acquiring valuable timber, or for a summer home, or town or power site, or to monopolize the water supply on stock range. Bona fide mining men do not wish to take up claims for an unlawful purpose, and the national forests are open to them at all times. Prospectors may obtain a certain amount of national-forest timber free of charge to be used in developing their claims, and in other ways the Forest Service gives the mining man all the help it can.

## WATER

The Klamath, with its abundance of large rivers, mountain streams, and lakes, is one of the best watered national forests in California. The principal use now made of the water from the forest is for mining operations, for the irrigation of agricultural lands inside the forest and the extensive ranches in the Scott Valley, and for domestic and municipal water supply. The Klamath River is the potential source of abundant hydroelectric power, but at present the only power development is east of the Shasta River. State laws prohibit the building of high dams on the Klamath between the Shasta River and the Pacific Ocean.

## RECEIPTS

Twenty-five percent of the funds received by the Federal Government from the sale or use of national-forest timber, forage, water, and recreational resources is returned to the State in lieu of taxes for schools and roads



in the counties in which the forests are located. During the past nine years Siskiyou County has received an average of \$9,000 annually from this source. In addition, 10 percent of the receipts is expended each year by the Forest Service for roads and trails. The Government, in cooperation with the State and county, has also spent over \$2,200,000 in the construction and improvement of the Klamath River Highway, and an additional \$500,000 on the Salmon River Road.

## RECREATION

The Klamath National Forest offers many opportunities for those who desire a vacation trip into a real wilderness country. The main roads lead to many beautiful scenic areas and noted camping and fishing grounds, but a real "wilderness" trip can be made only with saddle horse and pack outfit. The trail system of the forest totals 2,000 miles and makes it possible to reach the most attractive areas in from one to two days' travel on horseback.

## AUTOMOBILE TOURS

Free camping places are available for the automobile traveler along the main roads and side roads of the Klamath Forest. Forest Service campgrounds with sanitary facilities are located at Spring Flat on the Scott River Road, near Clear Creek, O'Neil Creek, Swillup Creek, Peach Creek, and Bluff Creek on the Klamath River Highway, and at Finley Camp on the Sawyers Bar Road. Free and "pay" camping privileges are obtainable at private campgrounds at or near the various towns and service stations, and from owners of ranches. Meals and lodging can be secured at hotels or resorts along the main roads and at some of the ranches, and there are numerous gasoline stations and grocery stores. It is also possible during the summer season to secure fresh vegetables, fruit, eggs, and milk at many of the small ranches along the roads.

From the Pacific Highway at Gazelle an interesting side trip can be made over Scott Mountain through Scott Valley and Callahan, and back over Yreka Mountain to the highway near Yreka.

From Yreka it is only a day's drive of 94 miles from the Pacific Highway at the bridge near the junction of the Klamath and Shasta Rivers, 11 miles north of Yreka, over the Klamath River Highway to the mouth of Scott River,



then to the left up the picturesque Scott River Canyon to Fort Jones, and thence over Yreka Mountain back to the Pacific Highway a short distance south of Yreka.

Two days will allow time for the tourist on the Pacific Highway to go down the Klamath River to Orleans, where good hotel accommodations are available, returning to Yreka the second day by way of the Salmon River Road and Scott Valley, a total distance of 215 miles. From Orleans, if desired, the trip can be continued the second day via Martins Ferry and Orick to Eureka, distance 104 miles, thence south on the Redwood Highway.

### PACK TRIPS

To penetrate the wilderness areas of the Klamath Forest it is necessary to "pack in" with pack stock and experienced guides and packers. There are numerous



F-229747

*Tourist packtrain and Kings Castle, Marble Mountain Primitive Area*

experienced guides and packers scattered throughout the forest who are equipped to accommodate parties wishing to vacation in the Klamath wilderness. Packers and guides with pack and saddle stock are available at the following places:

*Scott River country.*—Scott Valley, Canyon Creek, Kelsey Creek, Kleavers Ranch, and Scott Bar.

*Klamath River.*—Seiad Valley, Thompson Creek, Happy Camp, Clear Creek, Somes Bar, and Orleans.

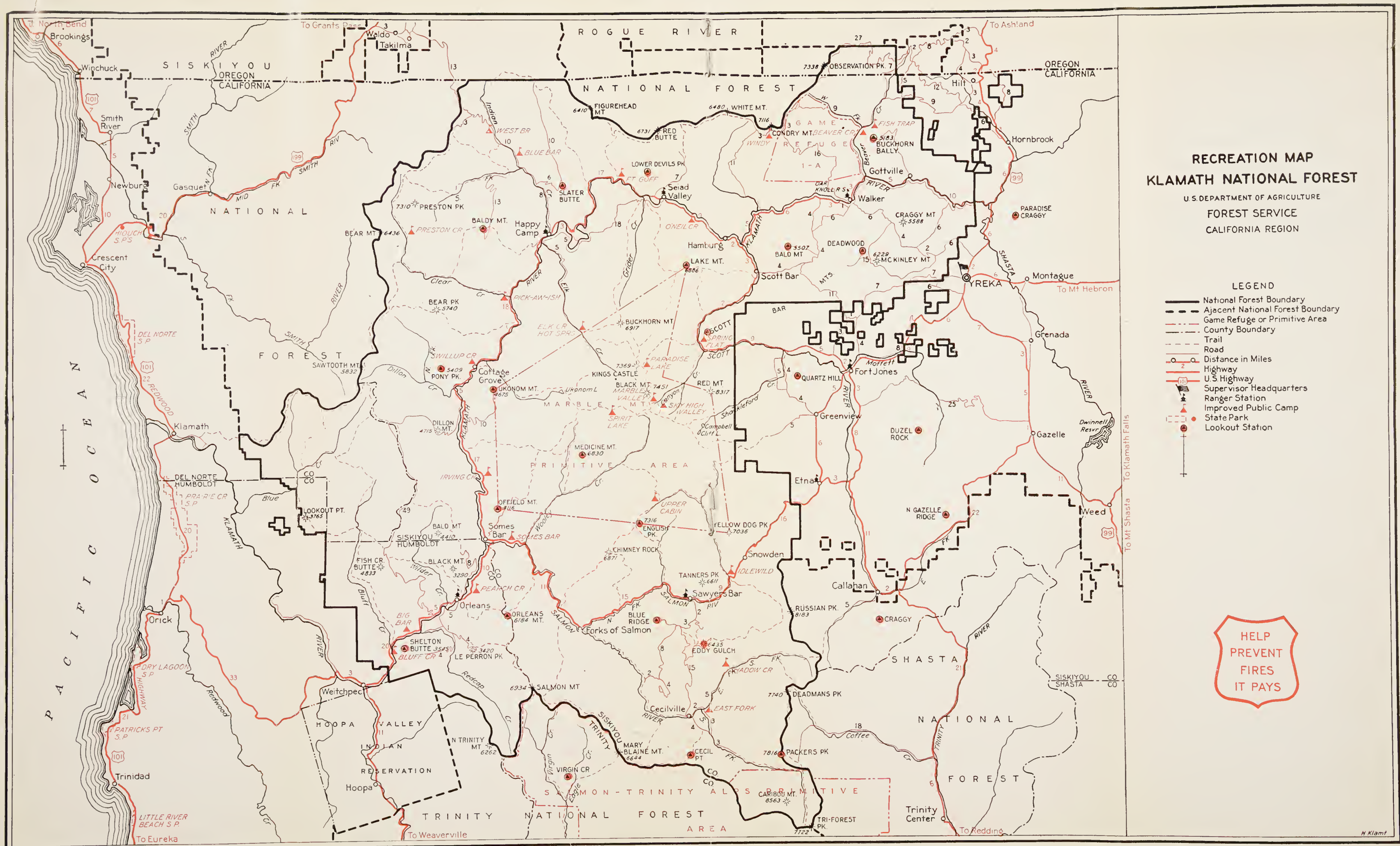
*Salmon River.*—Scott Valley, Finley Camp, Sawyers Bar, Cecilville, Forks of Salmon, and Somes Bar.

**Make sure it's a buck—if you can't see his horns, she hasn't any**











## PRIMITIVE AREAS

To preserve for the American people areas of natural wilderness where they may retreat from the cares and routine of everyday life, the Forest Service has set apart large tracts of land noted for their natural beauty and recreational values, to be kept in a primitive state. The areas are accessible only by trail, and no roads, special uses, resorts, or summer homes are allowed in them.

*Marble Mountain Primitive Area* is an island of high mountains encircled by the Salmon, Scott, and Klamath Rivers, containing 237,527 acres of the most picturesque rough mountain country in California. It derives its name from a cap of marble covering a mountain 7,396 feet above sea level. The marble takes a very fine finish when polished. In the area are numerous alpine lakes, splashing streams, high mountain meadows, and dense forests of fir and pine. This primitive area is a sportsman's paradise; the lakes and streams are well stocked with trout, and deer, bear, mountain lions, and small fur-bearing animals are plentiful. Located in the center of the forest, it is accessible from many points along the Salmon, Klamath, and Scott Rivers.

*The Salmon-Trinity Alps Primitive Area*, which includes 130,920 acres in the southeastern corner of the Klamath Forest, at the headwaters of the South Fork of Salmon River, together with portions of the adjoining Shasta and Trinity National Forests, contains some of the wildest and roughest country in the State. Here is Thompson Peak, 8,936 feet, one of the topographic wonders of northern California, and a confused mass of sawtooth summits, deep canyons, glaciers, and emerald lakes. This Primitive Area is accessible from the north by a road from Sawyers Bar on the Salmon River to Cecilville, thence by Government trail, or by trail from Forks of Salmon via Knownothing or Nordheimer Creeks.

## FISHING

The Klamath River, famous for its fall run of salmon and steelhead trout which attracts fishermen from all parts of the United States, is one of the finest fishing streams on the Pacific coast. Most of the salmon cultural operations of the Division of Fish and Game, State Department of Natural Resources, are now centered on the Klamath River, one of the few remaining streams in California with a good run of salmon.





F-229750

*The wilderness areas of the Klamath Forest offer ideal opportunities for an outdoor vacation*

The king salmon, which comes from the Pacific into the Klamath and its tributaries to spawn, arrives first, closely followed by the steelhead, the run reaching Orleans about the middle of August and the Shasta River a month or so later. This fishing is available to the motorist, as the main roads following along the river valleys are in close proximity to good fishing waters. Both salmon and steelhead may be taken on a spinner. Steelhead will also rise readily to a fly. Fishing on the Klamath is comparable to fishing on a large lake—that is, fishing is either good or poor, depending on the weather, water conditions, and the run of fish. A trip of several days' duration should therefore be planned.

As a game fish the steelhead is a favorite with anglers, because of both its large size and its fighting qualities. The fish average 1 to 5 pounds in weight.

In California the term "steelhead" is commonly used to designate a trout that has come into a river from the sea. Some ichthyologists consider the steelhead a species entirely distinct from the rainbow trout, which it closely resembles. Prof. John O. Snyder, head of the Zoology Department, Stanford University, states that from a careful examination he is convinced that the coarse-scaled steelhead and the rainbow trout are identical.

**Leave a clean camp and a clean record. Garbage, crippled game, and broken laws are poor monuments for tourists and sportsmen to leave behind them.**



According to Professor Snyder, the sea-run trout in the streams of the northern part of California belong to two species. By far the larger number is *Salmo irideus*, but among these may occasionally be seen an example of the cutthroat trout *Salmo clarkii* (Richardson), so that one may speak with propriety of rainbow-steelheads and cutthroat-steelheads, the latter being distinguished by their smaller scales.

Commercial fishermen distinguish between salmon and trout by noting whether the fish is easily held up by the tail. The constricted portion in front of the tail (*caudal peduncle*) makes it easy to hold a salmon by the tail, but that of a trout is so nearly the size of the tail fin that the fish is held up with difficulty. The salmon also has a blackish mouth inside, while the steelhead's mouth is white.

Rainbow, eastern brook, and other trout abound in practically all of the smaller streams and mountain lakes of the Klamath Forest, which are regularly stocked by the State Division of Fish and Game in cooperation with the Forest Service and local sporting clubs and private individuals. These waters furnish excellent fishing during the summer months, but a pack trip is necessary to reach the best fishing grounds.

## HUNTING

Columbian black-tail deer are found over the entire Klamath Forest, being especially plentiful in the more remote areas. It is usually necessary to secure the services



F 263471

*Camera hunting on the Klamath National Forest. Sportsmen are finding it a greater thrill to "shoot" with a camera than with a gun*



of a guide and pack outfit in order to reach the best hunting grounds, although many deer are killed each year within a short distance of camping places along roads. Good bear hunting is available in the fall months and some of the regular guides keep dogs for this sport. Mountain lions are numerous, but an experienced guide with trained dogs is necessary for a successful hunt.

For the tourist who does not care to hunt but does enjoy viewing deer, a trip to the Parker Ranch near Calahan is well worth while. Hunting or the shooting of firearms is strictly prohibited on this ranch, where the deer have been protected and fed for many years and are very numerous and tame during all seasons of the year.

## GAME REFUGES

As a breeding ground for deer and other wild life of the Klamath Forest the State has established Game Refuge 1A in the region north of the Klamath River, from Beaver Creek to Horse Creek and Buckhorn Creek and extending northward to the Siskiyou summit. All hunting in this refuge is prohibited.

## PUBLIC CAMPS

Free campgrounds are maintained by the Forest Service at desirable places throughout the forest and are indicated on the map. In the campgrounds the Forest Service has built stoves, tables, refuse pits, and comfort stations, and has developed pure drinking water for the use of the public. You are invited to use these camps and requested to leave them in a clean and orderly condition.

## SUMMER HOMES

There are numerous areas suited for summer-home purposes within the Klamath National Forest. Sites on Government land are available under special-use permit, at an annual rental of from \$15 to \$25, near Bluff Creek, Somes Bar, Finley Camp, and Spring Flat. For particulars inquire at the nearest district ranger station or at the office of the forest supervisor at Yreka.

## FIRE PREVENTION

One of the chief duties of Forest Service officers is to protect the resources of the national forests from damage and destruction by fire. In a region of rough topography, such as the Klamath, where the road and trail systems are still incomplete and some territory inaccessible, this task is a difficult one unless both local inhabitants and travelers cooperate in helping to reduce the fire danger.



For the protection of the Klamath National Forest the Government has constructed 1,000 miles of trails and 150 miles of roads, and has maintained many miles of existing roads and trails. Telephone lines, totaling over 500 miles, connect 12 fire lookout stations on prominent peaks with the district ranger headquarters and the supervisor's office in Yreka. During the dangerous fire months 35 extra men are employed as fire guards to help the regular forest force control fires quickly and efficiently.

The fire hazard on the Klamath National Forest comes largely from two sources; lightning storms, which often occur in remote and inaccessible mountain areas accompanied by little or no rain, and incendiarism on the part of a few individuals among the local population who are actuated by selfish or malicious motives.



F-215247

*Fire, the destroyer. Barkhouse Creek fire, Klamath National Forest*





F-229728

*The old mining town of Scotts Bar and the Scott River*

There is no way by which man can prevent lightning fires, and the best that can be done is to have the fire lookouts keep a close watch for them, and then to send crews of men to put them out before they cover a large area. The incendiary problem, however, is not a fire hunt but a man hunt; not fire, but the owner of the hand that lights it, is the public's enemy. By his acts the incendiary not only violates the law but destroys valuable resources that are vitally necessary to the prosperity of the country; he kills the game animals and birds of the forests; and drives away motorists, campers, and sportsmen who contribute to the business of the community. Every incendiary fire that has to be fought also means just that much less money for roads and trails and other needed improvements. The hand of the incendiary is set against the public welfare and it is the duty of every citizen to help apprehend those who willfully set fires and to see that they are punished as they justly deserve.

Fires started by motorists, campers, fishermen, and hunters are not the most serious problem of forest protection on the Klamath, but as the recreational use of the forest increases it will be necessary that these visitors take every precaution to prevent fires from starting.

**Automobile and pack-train parties camping in the Klamath National Forest must be equipped with a shovel and ax suitable for fire-fighting purposes.**



A campfire permit must be obtained before any outdoor fire, including fire in stoves burning gasoline, kerosene, or wood, can be started in the Klamath National Forest. Each automobile or pack-train party camping in the Federal forest must be equipped with a shovel and ax suitable for fire-fighting purposes. During the dangerous fire season no smoking is permitted in the forest, except in camps or at places of habitation.

Incendiary outbreaks may result at any time in the closing by the Forest Service of special areas or the entire Klamath National Forest to all forms of public use and travel.

## THE "LIGHT-BURNING" FALLACY

The fire-protection policy of the Forest Service seeks to prevent fires from starting and to suppress quickly those that may start. This established policy is criticized by those who hold that the deliberate and repeated burning of forest lands offers the best method of protecting those lands from the devastation of summer fires. Because prior to the inauguration of systematic protection California timberlands were repeatedly burned over without the complete destruction of the forest, many people have reached the untenable conclusion that the methods of Indian days are the best that can be devised for the present. It is commonly assumed in this argument that controlled burning of the forests, either in the spring or fall, is an easy practice, which can be carried out at slight expense, with negligible damage to the forest itself, and with complete or nearly complete removal of the accumulated debris which inevitably forms in any growing forest.

It has been found, however, that actually to carry out controlled burning in our diversified mountain topography is an exceedingly difficult and costly practice. If the fires are really "controlled", experience shows that it costs not less than 35 cents per acre each time the forest is burned over, and may cost as much as \$1. Since this must be done every few years, the cost over a period of years soon becomes prohibitive for any but the holder of a very small parcel of land. Again, while in theory it is simple to select the proper time of year for burning, in practice it has been extremely difficult to find a time when conditions are such that fires will start without developing into devastating conflagrations with all the characteristics of the summer fires which the practice seeks to prevent.





*Klamath Indians with 44-pound salmon*

F-182422

Even very light fires properly controlled cause serious damage to the forest. The young trees particularly are killed, and even the largest and most valuable veterans are not immune to death from these creeping fires. It has been found that, even when properly controlled, such fires cause a loss of value amounting to several dollars an acre each time they run through the forest.

The most serious result of repeated burning of the forests is that the gradual destruction of the forest trees leads to the invasion of the land by worthless brush. This not only makes the reestablishment of the forest difficult but makes the control of fires infinitely harder and more costly than if a full stand of timber is maintained.



The stock argument of those who advocate the "light burning" of forests is that fire exclusion ultimately leads to the building up of supplies of inflammable material to such an extent that the uncontrollable and completely destroying fire is certain to occur. The experience of the Forest Service in California, after 15 years or more of fire fighting, does not lead to any such conclusion. Large and destructive fires have occurred, particularly in very dry years, but none of these fires approach in size or destructiveness some of the conflagrations that occurred on light-burned grounds in the days when the control of fires in the forest was nobody's business. Records show that these early-day fires burned for months unchecked and covered entire major watersheds in the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range. The presence of nearly two million acres of brush now occupying lands which formerly supported a merchantable forest is eloquent proof of the fact that such fires were just as destructive as are the fires of today.

The existing policy of the Forest Service in fire prevention and suppression has not been reached on the basis of guesswork. It represents continuous and critical study of forest fires. Fire exclusion is the only practical principle on which our forests can be handled, if we are to protect what we have and to insure new and more fully stocked forests for the future.

## ADMINISTRATION

National forests are administered by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The Klamath is one of the 18 national forests of the California Region with headquarters in San Francisco. The headquarters of the forest supervisor of the Klamath National Forest is located in the Masonic Building at Yreka, Calif. The forest is divided into six ranger districts, each with a district ranger in charge. District rangers headquarters are at Yreka, Seiad Valley, Fort Jones, Happy Camp, Orleans, and Sawyers Bar.

All forest officers will be glad to give information relative to forest resources and camping, hunting, and fishing conditions and be of such assistance to travelers as their regular duties will permit.

**Throwing away lighted matches or tobacco, or other burning material, from an automobile or other moving vehicle is prohibited by State law.**



# MILEAGE TABLE

## KLAMATH RIVER HIGHWAY

*From Klamath River Bridge, on Pacific Highway, at junction of Klamath and Shasta Rivers*

	Miles		Miles
Browns Resort.....	15.9	Somes Bar.....	106.6
Oak Bar.....	23.9	Orleans.....	115.0
Scott River Bridge.....	33.0	Weitchpec.....	132.2
Hamburg.....	35.3	Martins Ferry.....	135.7
Seiad Valley.....	45.1	Redwood Highway near	
Thompson Creek.....	53.1	Orick.....	168.4
Happy Camp.....	64.9	Eureka.....	215.4

## SALMON RIVER ROAD

*From Pacific Highway near Yreka*

	Miles		Miles
Fort Jones.....	15.9	Etna.....	28.1

*From Pacific Highway at Gazelle*

Callahan .....	27.3	Etna.....	41.2
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*From Etna*

Salmon Mountain Summit.	10.0	Forks of Salmon.....	41.4
Finley Camp.....	19.4	Somes Bar.....	58.5
Sawyers Bar.....	25.2		

*From Sawyers Bar*

	Miles
Cecilville.....	23.0

## SCOTT RIVER ROAD

*Pacific Highway near Yreka*

	Miles		Miles
Fort Jones.....	15.9	Scott Bar.....	44.8
Spring Flat.....	33.0	Scott River Bridge on Kla-	
Kleavers Ranch.....	36.0	math Highway.....	47.4





# NATIONAL FOREST VISITORS

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## FREE PUBLIC USE OF NATIONAL FORESTS IS INVITED

Visitors to the Klamath National Forest are required to observe the following rules:

1. A campfire permit must be secured before building any fire, including fire in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline, on national-forest land. The nearest forest officer will issue a permit to you without charge.

2. Every camping party in the national forests must be equipped with a shovel and an ax per vehicle or pack train. Shovel, with blade at least 8 inches wide, and an overall length of 36 inches; ax, not less than 26 inches long overall, with head weighing 2 pounds or more. Both of these tools to be in serviceable condition. All camping parties will be expected to obtain these tools before entering the national forests.

3. During the fire season smoking is prohibited in the national forests, except in camps, at places of habitation, and in special posted areas. Smokers must be careful to extinguish their lighted matches, cigars and cigarettes, and pipe heels. Watch for "No Smoking" and "Smoke Here" signs.

4. In periods of high fire hazard, camping and camp or picnic fires may be restricted to posted campgrounds, and part or all of the national forests may be closed to public use and travel. Watch for "Closed Area" signs.

5. Build small fires. Clear an area, down to mineral soil, not less than 10 feet in diameter before starting a fire.

6. Never leave a fire without totally extinguishing it with a plentiful supply of water.

7. Keep your camp clean. Where garbage pits and incinerators are not provided, burn or bury all garbage and refuse.

8. Do not pollute the springs, streams, or lakes by insanitary acts.

9. Observe the State fish and game laws.

10. Drive carefully on mountain roads.

**Your cooperation in the enforcement of these regulations is requested**





## WHAT TO DO WHEN LOST

A clear head will find itself. If every one remembered this there would be fewer reports of persons lost in the mountains and forests. Loss of mental control is more serious than lack of food, water, or clothing. The man who keeps his head has the best chance to come through in safety.

The following helpful rules are worth remembering:

1. Stop, sit down, and try to figure out where you are. Use your head, not your legs.
2. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make camp in a sheltered spot. Build a fire in a safe place. Gather plenty of dry fuel.
3. Don't wander about. Travel only downhill. Follow water courses or ridges.
4. If injured, choose a cleared spot on a promontory and make a signal smoke. The Forest Service fire lookouts or the observers in airplanes may see your smoke.
5. Don't yell, don't run, don't worry, and **DON'T QUIT.**

A word from the forest rangers to the new camper, hiker, or vacationist:

It is better to carry a clear head on your shoulders than a big pack on your back. Yet in going alone into the mountains it is well to go prepared for any emergency. A fish line and a few hooks, matches in a waterproof box, a compass, a little concentrated food, and a strong knife should always be carried. A gun may help as a signal, seldom for obtaining food. Above all, keep cool, and the chances are you will come out of the woods on your own feet.

## GOOD MANNERS IN THE FOREST

A good sportsman, camper, or tourist, when he goes into the national forests—

- First obtains a camp-fire permit.
- Carries a shovel and ax.
- Smokes only in camp.
- Puts his fire dead out with water.
- Leaves a clean and sanitary camp.
- Observes the State fish and game laws.
- Cooperates with the forest rangers in reporting and suppressing fires.
- Preaches what he practices.

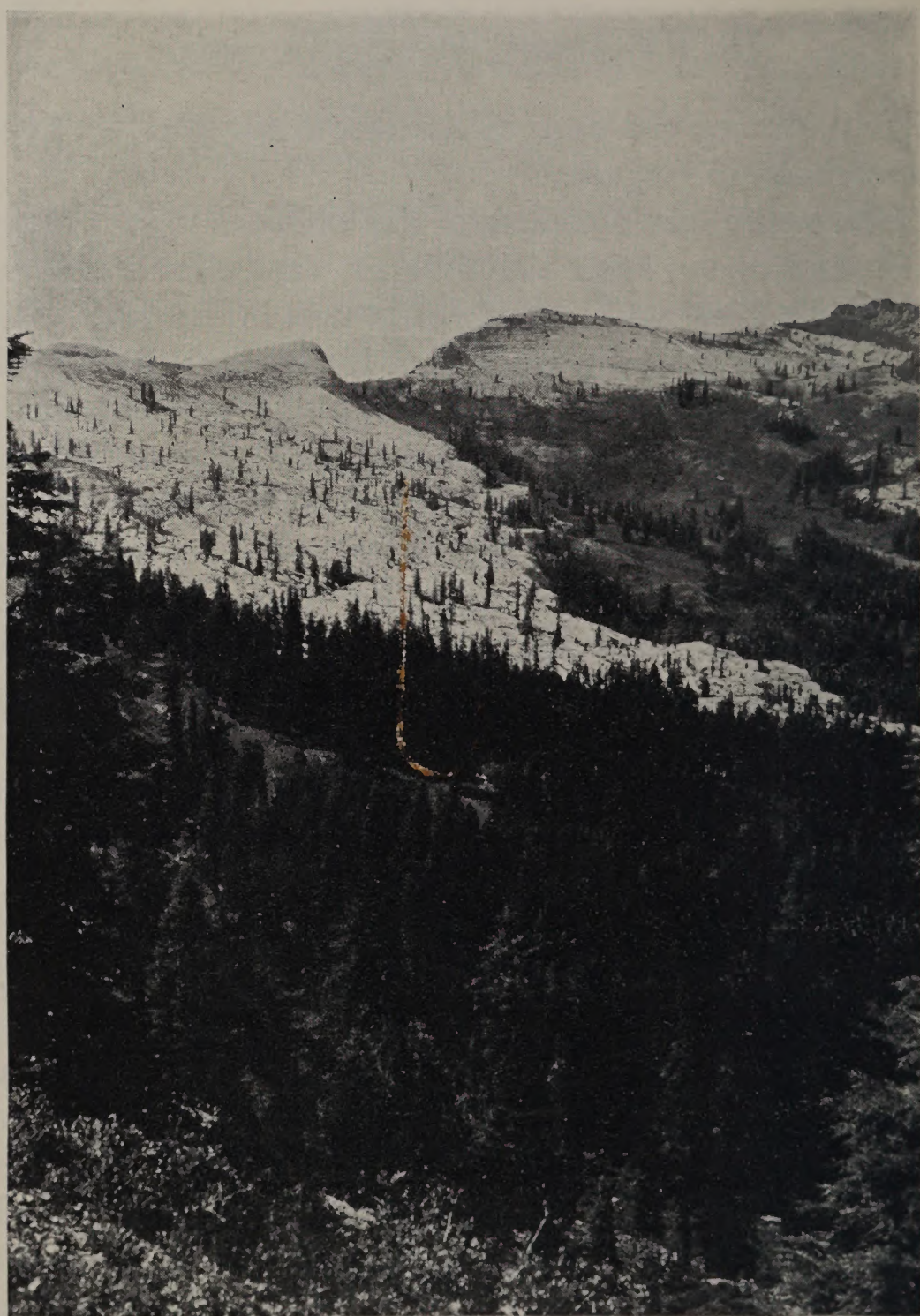
## DO YOU?

If you don't know—ask the U. S. Forest Ranger



# KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST CALIFORNIA-OREGON

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© Photo by Yreka Studio.  
*Marble Mountain (7,396 feet) from Sky High Trail*

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
CALIFORNIA REGION